

OP ACTION ITEM FROM IG'S REPORT ON TRAINING

Recommendation No. 9 (Page 52 of Report)

Action assigned to: Mobilization and Military
Personnel Division

OP Work Project No. 30-61

Recommendation: DTR confer with the Commanding Officers of the Army and Air Force Reserve Units to see if more practical reserve training, e.g., International Communism, could be handled by OTR for the reservists.

DD/S Comment: Concur. OTR has been asked to participate with an existing committee of representatives of DD/P, DD/I, DD/S, and Chief/MMPD to discuss various aspects of OTR support of the Agency Military Reserve Training Program.

DDCI Action: Approved with the understanding that the Military Reserve Advisory Committee is already looking into this recommendation together with MMPD, Office of Personnel.

OTR Proposed Action: Being done. C/PPS is now a member of this Committee.

OTR Proposed Report of Action: Chief, Plans and Policy Staff, OTR (himself a reserve officer) is a member of the Military Reserve Advisory Committee, and although that committee meets infrequently he remains in close touch with planning conducted by the Reserve Affairs Office, MMPD. It should also be noted that the Chief, School of International Communism, OTR, has participated as a lecturer in the current Agency Reserve Training Program.

4. Military Reserve Officer Training

a. Origin

(1) The training of military reservists is a basic responsibility of the military services and, in general, is beyond the purview of this survey. Agency employees with active military reserve officer status are required to devote a certain amount of their own time to military study in order to maintain that status and to advance within their service. The Agency is required only to grant leave to the reservist for 15 days each year so that he may

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participate in an active duty training program of his choice. The reservist has a wide variety of programs to choose from and there is little doubt that the individual and the Agency frequently derive benefit from this activity.

(2) In 1957 the Military Personnel Division, Office of Personnel, proposed an Agency sponsored program which would permit reservists to perform their 15 day active duty training [redacted] The purpose was to relate such training more closely to the Agency's wartime mission and the unconventional warfare courses offered by OTR would evolve into a logical extension of the already established program conducted at the weekly meetings of the Reserve. Permission was requested of the military services in April 1958 to use the OTR courses in UW to meet the active duty tour for reservists. The Army and Air Force concurred but Navy and Marine Corps refused because the program did not meet their training requirements.

(3) Arrangements were made with the Office of Training to conduct four courses, [redacted] Evasion and Escape, Air Operations, and [redacted]. Each course was of two weeks duration and for the balance of 1958 were scheduled a total of seven times. OTR found favor with the program partly, at least, because staff officer requirements for UW training were at low ebb and it offered a means of maintaining a training capability acknowledged to be important but which otherwise could hardly be justified. OTR stipulated, however, that Reserve training would be subordinate to regularly scheduled operations training including tutorials and special exercises. It also was subject to the availability of instructor personnel. The Military Reserve Officer Training Program [redacted] was launched on 2 June 1958 with the opening of the first course [redacted]

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b. Current Activities

(1) Since the program started a total of 193 (of more than 500 eligible) Army and Air Force reservists have elected to take the OTR courses [redacted] as their active duty training. One running [redacted] in February 1960 was cancelled for lack of applicants but all others have been well attended. The last course to be scheduled for CY 1960 began 11 July; thereafter for the balance of the year all Reserve Officer Training Courses will be suspended because of the press of other requirements.

(2) The value of the program both to the individual reservist and the Agency is difficult to appraise. Two weeks of practical field work and demonstrations would appear to be a logical climax to the 40 weekly two-hour sessions of instruction in UW operations the reservist receives throughout the rest of the year. The program must be weighed in the light of the overall contribution it makes to the Agency in preparing for its responsibilities to support the armed forces in time of war. From this point of view some serious doubts emerge.

(3) It should be noted at the outset that the Agency's wartime role is not clearly delineated, that there is not universal agreement on the nature and extent of the Agency's mission in time of hot war and that Unconventional Warfare is only one aspect of its mission. To place undue emphasis on UW is to distort the whole picture. A very sound three-year cycle of instruction for Agency reservists was approved by the Command Group in 1956 to study major military forces of the world. Under this program UW as a subject for study assumes an appropriate but relatively low level position.

(4) If it is intended, as has been implied, to prepare reservists to participate in UW operations in time of war this program is entirely inadequate.

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Unconventional Warfare is a highly specialized field requiring extensive training in depth not merely in the four courses conducted [] but of the full scope of clandestine and covert operations. It is a subject in which superficial knowledge is far more dangerous than total ignorance. Furthermore the needs of the Clandestine Service for officers capable of conducting paramilitary operations must be met through a program designed for the purpose and having more specific objectives in view. The DD/P has recently approved such a program in connection with the establishment of the Contingency Task Force.

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(5) The training facilities [] are not able to meet the requirements of both the Contingency Task Force and the Officer Reserve active duty program and the latter will be suspended with the completion of the course scheduled to begin 11 July 1960. Such suspension is in keeping with the priority status of the Contingency Task Force program and if there are plans to re-institute the Officer Reserve program at some time in the future they have not yet been made known. In view of the obscure objectives and questionable contribution made by the Officer Reserve active duty training program it must be regarded more as a convenience than a necessity and therefore its continuation is not justified.

It is recommended that:

The DTR confer with the Commanding Officers of the Army and Air Reserve units to see if more practical reserve training, e.g., International Communism, could be handled by OTR for the reservists.

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